



East Coventry Times

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Spring | Summer 2023

Staff Notes

Administration Department

We would like to introduce and welcome two new staff members to East Coventry Township. Eugene Briggs was appointed as East Coventry Township's Manager in November of last year and Amy Holland was hired as the Administrative Assistant to the Township Manager in February.

Eugene brings over 20 years of governmental experience with his last nine years managing another township in Chester County. In addition to his governmental experience, Eugene also managed an engineering office in Limerick Township for about eight years and briefly worked as a land developer. He graduated from Bloomsburg University with a Degree in Geography and a concentration in Environmental Planning. Eugene lives in West Vincent Township with his wife and their two daughters, who proudly attend Owen J. Roberts School District.



Amy Holland is an experienced administrative professional with more than six years of administrative assistant support at Owen J. Roberts School District and Coatesville VA Medical Center. Amy will be graduating from Southern New Hampshire University with a Degree in Business Administration and a minor in Accounting. Amy lives in East Coventry Township.

Finance Department



The Township's Sanitary Sewer Usage Fee is \$185 a quarter and is invoiced January 01, April 01, July 01, and October 01. We accept payments in the form of cash, check or credit card. When paying by check, we ask that you please write your property address on your sewer payment. Note that your sewer account number is actually the property address of the service connection. If you have a mortgage escrow account, please make sure your sewer payments are not going to the tax collector. Remember, if your water is shut off due to delinquent sewer payments, it can take up to 10 days for the water to get turned back on. To help avoid this, you can make payment arrangements with the Township by contacting Jill Barbera, Financial Accountant, at 610-495-5443.



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In this issue we share news about upcoming events and other important information.

From all of us here at the Township – we look forward to working with you this year!

Staff Notes (continued)

Police Department



We would like to introduce and welcome our newest officer. Officer Richard B. Eppleman was sworn in during the November Board of Supervisors Meeting. A Chester County resident, Officer Eppleman will be filling a vacant part-time position. By the time this Newsletter reaches you, Officer Eppleman will have completed over 300 hours of field training by certified members of the Police Department. Officer Eppleman is a graduate of the Delaware County Municipal Police Academy and holds dual bachelor degrees in Criminal Justice and Political Science from Weidner University. We look forward to Officer Eppleman's contribution to improving the safety and quality-of-life of our residents and all those who come within our care.

Public Works Department

Please take it slow through the work zones, as the Public Works Crew will be completing the following road projects this year:

- Scratch coating on Bishop Road.
- Oiling and chipping on Blossom Lane, Holley Lane, Sage Drive, and Woods Lane.
- Scratch coating, oiling, and chipping on Do Jan Drive, Fox Drive, Freigh Lane, Maack Road, and Sylvan Drive.



Emergency Management Coordinator

Jonathan Brackbill, East Coventry Township's Emergency Management Coordinator, would like you to know about these two safety services offered by Chester County.



Township Sanitary Sewer Sale Exploration

Last year, the Board of Supervisors assembled a team of professionals to help explore the possible sale of its public sanitary sewer system. The team is lead by PFM Financial Advisors, who work with municipalities across the Commonwealth to assist them in determining if a sale of their sanitary sewer systems meets their individual goals and objectives. To date, PFM has estimated the value of the Township system, researched interest by qualified buyers, and released a Request for Bids for the possible sale. The next steps before a decision can be made to either keep or sell the public sanitary sewer system are to evaluate the bid proposals, hold public meetings to discuss the findings and obtain comments, analyze the pros and cons of keeping versus selling the system, and then the Board will consider making its decision at a public meeting late spring or early summer. Please visit www.eastcoventry-pa.gov for further information or contact Eugene Briggs, Township Manager, at 610-495-5443 with questions.



Spring City Public Library Update

Always Something Fun To Do At Your Library In Spring City!



This time of year, the library is looking forward to welcoming all ages to our Summer Reading Club which begins in early June and runs through the middle of August. This year's theme is All Together Now. Keep your eye on the weekly e-newsletter for further details. Not a subscriber. Just call the library at 610-948-4130 with your email address to sign up. Or, you can go to www.springcitylibrary.org for info on all of our events.

The library offers a variety of both virtual and in person events. Why not join us in person for Adult Coloring on Tuesdays (11:00 AM to 12:00 PM) and Thursdays (2:00 to 3:00 PM) or bring your kids to our weekly story time on Wednesday mornings with Miss Amy for ages 3-5? This popular story time is followed by a Block Party which is free play with our set of large wooden blocks. This year we introduced our After School Read Aloud program on Wednesdays from 4:15 to 4:45 PM for first through fourth graders. Staff and mystery readers read aloud from chapter books each week. Be sure not to miss our many virtual programs for adults on topics such as water color, music, makeup, house organization, health, and much more!

Lastly, mark your calendars for the library book and plant sale on May 20! Please consider donating books in good condition and plants that you no longer need in your garden. Plants can be donated the week before the sale and can be outdoor or indoor plants. We look forward to seeing you at the library!

For details, and to register for these and other exciting programs, please be sure to check out our event calendar at www.springcitylibrary.org or our Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/springcitypubliclibrary>.

Tax Collection

YOU CAN MAKE PAYMENTS FOR 2023 TAXES ON-LINE. There is a processing fee for this service. Please visit www.eastcoventry-pa.gov for further information. **Payment of Real Estate and Per Capita Taxes can be made in person at the Township Building during the following times:**

- Tuesday, April 11 from 12:00 to 4:00 PM
- Thursday, April 13 from 12:00 to 4:00 PM
- Saturday, April 15 from 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM
- Tuesday, April 18 from 12:00 to 4:00 PM
- Thursday, April 20 from 12:00 to 4:00 PM
- Saturday, April 22 from 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM
- Tuesday, April 25 from 12:00 to 4:00 PM
- Thursday, April 27 from 12:00 to 4:00 PM
- Saturday, April 29 from 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM



Remember to please bring the entire bill for payment receipt. All East Coventry Township Real Estate and Per Capital Tax questions should be directed to Missy King, Tax Collector, at 610-495-7667 or via email at ecoventrytaxcollector@outlook.com.

Ridge Fire Company



Reflective Address Markers

The signs are only \$15 each. You can have a 6 inch wide by 18 inch high “Mailbox Marker” or a 14 inch wide by 5 inch high “House Marker”. More information and forms to order the Reflective Address Markers are available on the Ridge Fire Company’s website www.ridgefirecompany.com. You can also call in a request at 610-495-6063.

Fire Police Services

If your organization needs the assistance of the Fire Police for an upcoming special event, please fill out a Fire Police Services Request Form which can be found on the Township’s website www.eastcoventry-pa.gov or stop by the Township Building.

Coventry Food Panty

You may drop off items in the Township Building lobby. Your donations support families throughout the Owen J. Roberts School District. The Panty is in constant need of jelly in plastic jars, peanut butter, tuna, canned meat, canned fruit, cereal, oatmeal, pasta sauce, pasta, rice, side dishes, cleaning supplies, paper products, soap, toothpaste, laundry detergent, diapers, wipes, 100% fruit juice boxes, small fruit cups in 100% juice, individual puddings, raisins, dried fruit, yogurt, fruit filled cereal bars, granola bars, fruit roll-ups, fruit snacks, crackers (peanut butter, cheese), pudding or Jell-O box mixes, and small bags of pretzels or gold fish. Thank you for your donations!



Hazardous Waste Collection

Visit the East Coventry Township Website at www.eastcoventry-pa.gov for a link to Chester County’s 2023 Hazardous Waste Collection Schedule.

Latex Paint Disposal

Please note that latex paint may be discarded in household trash following one of the three below methods:



1. Remove paint can lid; let paint dry out completely, and discard without lid on paint can.
2. Fill a garbage bag with absorbent material such as clay-based kitty litter, sawdust or rags, pour paint into the garbage bag with the absorbent material, let dry, and discard garbage bag and paint can without lid in trash can.
3. Paint hardener can also be purchased at the hardware store.

Electronics Recycling

Various electronics can be dropped off for recycling at the Chester County Solid Waste Authority, which is located at 7224 Division Highway (Rte. 322W, Honey Brook), Narvon, PA 17555. Please call 610-273-3771 for hours, costs, and other details associated with this recycling service.



Open Burning



A reminder that open burning is not allowed in the Township, except for recreational purposes such as a fire pit in an area no larger than 3 feet by 3 feet by 3 feet.

Earth Day Pigeon Creek Cleanup



In support of Earth Day activities this April, the Board of Supervisors is again sponsoring a cleanup of Pigeon Creek between Old Schuylkill Road and the Schuylkill River as well as Towpath Park along the Schuylkill River. Persons interested in keeping East Coventry Township clean and green are invited to volunteer a few hours of their time to participate in this annual community stream cleanup initiative.

Interested volunteers are to gather at the Schuylkill River Trail's Parker Ford parking lot located at the intersection of Linfield Road and Route 724, at 10:00 AM on Saturday, April 22. The rain date will be Saturday, April 29. For more information please contact Brady Flaharty, Township Engineer, at 484-866-9669.

Parks, Recreation and Conservation Committee Update

What is new with our parks and trails?

East Coventry Township has an extensive network of parks and trails, and the Parks, Recreation and Conservation Committee is committed to enhancing these public spaces. Make sure you have not missed the latest additions:

Signs at East Coventry Nature Preserve



Two new signs have been built at East Coventry Nature Preserve, one at the corner of Maack and Kulp Roads and another in front of the schoolhouse on Schoolhouse Road. These signs mark the preserve's two entrances, drawing attention to where visitors may park to access the Township trail system.

The stone pillars that support the signs have a unique shape: they are wide at the base and become narrow toward the top. This tapered design is modeled after the stone pillars that support the forebay (an area where one or more walls overshoot a building's foundation) of old barns spread throughout southeastern Pennsylvania, including some here in East Coventry Township. These pillars celebrate the architecture of our historical buildings and should serve as a permanent reminder of our community's agricultural roots.



We thank Jocelyn Canfield of Communication Results for her design expertise, Jeremiah Wright of Jeremiah Wright Masonry for building the stone pillars, local resident Bob Bauers for his beautiful ironwork, John Becker for his skilled woodworking, and the Public Works Department for sign assembly. This project was funded by a Department of Conservation and Natural Resources grant, part of the Schuylkill Highlands Mini-Grant Program administered by Natural Lands.

'Wildcat Trail' around East Coventry Elementary School



Over the winter, the 1.5-mile Wildcat Trail opened around the perimeter of the old and new East Coventry Elementary School properties, offering a relatively flat and easy walk through beautiful open space. **Access to the Wildcat Trail is NOT permitted during school hours**, but public access is available at all other times. New playground equipment has been ordered and a new ADA-accessible sidewalk will be constructed so that all of our residents can enjoy this newly defined open space.

The Wildcat Trail is the product of collaboration between East Coventry Township and Owen J. Roberts School District. We thank the Public Works Department for installing the sign posts. The project was funded by a Shared Schoolyards grant (accessed by the Township through membership in the Pottstown Area Regional Recreation Committee). Funding was also provided by PECO.

Parks, Recreation and Conservation Committee Update (continued)

What is next?

Second Annual Birdhouse Day at Ellis Woods Park!



Join the Parks, Recreation and Conservation Committee for a celebration of East Coventry's breeding birds on **Saturday, May 06 (Rain Date: Saturday, May 20) at 9:30 AM at the Pavilion at Ellis Woods Park!** Back by popular demand, Ken Leister of the Bluebird Society of Pennsylvania will be returning to lead another birdhouse building workshop. Ken will lead attendees through the process of assembling their own birdhouse kit, and then the event will move inside where refreshments will be served and Ken will give a presentation on all things related to bluebirds. To reserve a spot at this free event, please email Eric at eh474@cornell.edu with your name and the number of participants who will be attending with you. Space is limited! **We will accept reservations through April 15.**

East Coventry Revolutionary Cemetery Memorial Sunday Observation.

The graves of East Coventry Township's seventeen unknown soldiers from the American Revolution will once again be honored on **Sunday, May 28 at 2:00 PM at the East Coventry Revolutionary Cemetery.** Traditionally held the Sunday of Memorial Day weekend, this will be the 246th year since these patriots began their rest in the tiny plot at Ellis Woods and Buckwalter Roads.



East Coventry Township, Pottstown Joint Veterans Council, and Mahanatawny Daughters of the American Revolution invite the public to solemnly observe the sacrifices of our original freedom fighters with a ceremony including public participation, history, music, tradition, and nondenominational prayers. Street parking is available along Ellis Woods and Buckwalter Roads and will be directed by the Ridge Fire Company Special Police. In the event of rain, the event will be held under the Pavilion at Ellis Woods Park.

National Trails Day



National Trails Day is a perfect time for us to celebrate the amazing trails that we have throughout our community! Join us at East Coventry Nature Preserve's Maack Road parking lot on **Saturday, June 03 at 10:00 AM** for a guided walk around the preserve and refreshments at the restored stone wall. Terrain at the preserve is varied so sturdy footwear is necessary. Dogs are welcome but must be leashed and cleaned up after.

John Doyle Rock the Wall 5KRun/Walk and 10K Run East Coventry Township, Chester County, PA Saturday, April 15 at 9:00 AM

WHO: Runners and walkers of all ages! Gather your family, friends, and co-workers. Dogs are welcomed but must be on leash and cleaned up after.

WHAT: **John Doyle Rock the Wall Run** is a fundraiser to support East Coventry Township Parks, Recreation and Conservation Committee.

WHERE: **Towpath Park**
597 New Schuylkill Rd (Route 724)
Pottstown, PA 19465

WHEN: **Saturday, April 15**
7:30 AM – Registration Begins
9:00 AM – Start Time for Both Races
10:00 AM – Award Presentation at Pavilion

Run to be held on the Schuylkill River Trail, a flat, macadam path, starting and ending at Towpath Park. Photos will be taken and available for free download.

Awards will be given to male and female finishers for the 5k and 10k races respectively. Structure for awards is to be determined.

Finish line and timing service by **Pretzel City Sports**. Race results to be posted on www.pretzelcitysports.com.

Entry Fee for all events: \$25 if registered by March 20 includes a guaranteed Rock the Wall T-shirt. Registrations received after March 20 including Race Day is \$30, Rock the Wall T-shirts available while supplies last. **All registrations are non-refundable.**

Online Registration (preferred): You can register online at <https://www.pretzelcitysports.com/online-registration>. A nominal service fee applies, and online registration closes midnight the Wednesday before Race Day.

Mail In Registration: Check or money order payable to **East Coventry Township**. Complete the form below and mail to: **Pretzel City Sports, 112 West 36th Street, Reading PA 19606.**

Map of Route is posted on East Coventry Township website at <https://www.eastcoventry-pa.gov>.

Any questions contact: **Jason Stouch by telephone at 610-781-3199 or via email at jay.m.stouch@gmail.com.**

REGISTRATION FORM: John Doyle Rock the Wall

To register, please complete this portion of the form and submit it with a \$25 **check or money order payable to: East Coventry Township** by March 20 to receive a Rock the Wall T-shirt. The fee for entries received after March 20 and on Race Day is \$30. Rock the Wall T-shirts are then available while supplies last. Registrations are non-refundable. Mail form and payment to: **Pretzel City Sports, 112 West 36th Street, Reading PA 19606.**

Circle your Event: 5k RUNNER / 5k WALKER / 10k RUNNER

Circle your T-Shirt Size: Adult: S M L XL XXL

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____ Phone: _____

E-mail: _____ Age (on Race Day): _____ Male: _____ Female: _____

Waiver, Release of Liability, and Permission to Use Image.

For and in consideration of my participation in the "John Doyle Rock the Wall 5K and 10K Run/Walk, East Coventry Township, PA" (hereinafter the "Race"), I hereby agree to the terms and conditions of this Waiver, Release Liability, and Permission to Use Image as more specifically set forth herein. I hereby acknowledge that participation in such a Race is an inherently dangerous activity. I understand that the risks include serious injury or death from such hazards as weather conditions, falls, contact with the road, motor vehicle traffic, contact with other participants, the effects of the weather including heat and/or humidity, cold, wind and wind/chill, the condition of the road, trails and farmland and other potential hazards, foreseeable and/or unforeseeable. I acknowledge that I should not participate in the Race unless I am medically able and properly trained. I hereby waive and release any and all claims from loss, casualty, injury or death against the Race Director, Race Officials, the Township of East Coventry, the County of Chester and all Race volunteers and sponsors, their supervisors, commissioners, directors, principals, any and all employees, servants and agents, their representatives and successors and hereby further agree to assume all risks associated with participation in this Race. Furthermore, I acknowledge that photographs, videotapes, recordings, and other reproduction(s) of my image may be used for promotional purposes by the Township of East Coventry, Directors, Officials and/or Volunteers for the Race. I hereby grant any and all necessary permission to use any such images in any form of media, published or unpublished, now or hereafter for any legitimate purpose. I have read and fully understand that these terms are contractual and not a mere recital and sign this Waiver, Release of Liability, and Permission to Use Image voluntarily.

Date _____

Signature of Participant (or parent or guardian if under the 18 years of age) _____



East Coventry Township
855 Ellis Woods Road
Pottstown, PA 19465

Phone: 610-495-5443
Fax: 610-495-9925
www.eastcoventry-pa.gov

*Please visit www.eastcoventry-pa.gov
for additional Township
news and activities!*

Board of Supervisors

Ray Kolb, Chair
Anthony Duffy, Vice Chair
Michael Albert Moyer
W. Atlee Rinehart
Karen Nocella



Dates to Remember

Township Meetings

Board of Supervisors
Second Monday at 7:00 PM

Planning Commission
Third Wednesday at 7:00 PM

Historical Commission
Second Tuesday at 7:00 PM

**Parks, Recreation and
Conservation Committee**
Fourth Tuesday at 7:00 PM

Open Space Committee (Quarterly)
First Wednesday at 7:00 PM
May 2023

All Township meetings are held at the Township Building.

Township Office Hours

Monday - Friday | 8:00 AM - 4:30 PM

Closed: Good Friday, April 07
Memorial Day, May 29
Independence Day, July 04
Labor Day, September 04

Annual Egg Hunt will be on
Saturday, April 01 at 10:00 AM
at the
East Coventry Elementary School
(Rain Date is Saturday, April 07)

Ridge Fire Company
Community Day will be on
Saturday, September 09 from
1:00 to 3:00 PM